

**From:** Aldo Mancini  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
**Date:** 1/28/02 11:18am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am attaching a letter to express my opinion regarding the lawsuit against Microsoft. Please provide this correspondence your necessary attention.

Sincerely,  
Aldo Mancini  
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<<Letter to John Ashcroft for Microsoft - 01-28-2001.dot>>

**CC:** 'fin(a)mobilizationoffice.com'

January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

In the hopes to be heard, regarding the Microsoft lawsuit, I am writing this letter to express my opinion.

As a small business owner, we always strive to provide our customers the highest level of service and products they are purchasing from us. In order to differentiate us from our competitors, from time to time, we include free services and add-ons to our products to build on our promise to the customer.

I have always disagreed with the lawsuit against Microsoft and I believe that Microsoft is entitled to dictate the terms under which it will sell its software, even to its OEM customers. The uniform pricing mechanism will give the 20 OEMs all the benefits of a union with none of the hassles vis-à-vis Microsoft. The very idea that a few of Microsoft's most ardent competitors wanted government sanction to pillage Microsoft's success is disturbing.

I am somewhat pleased that this settlement has been accepted. It has the advantage of ending this sad chapter in our history. However, the terms of the settlement seem to give the government one last poke at Microsoft by requiring it to release some of its venerated source code to its competitors. As a Microsoft partner, Microsoft has always provided to us an insight to its source code to allow us to build better software products without releasing its right to the ownership of such code. It should be to the discretion of Microsoft to determine which companies, if any, need to be provided access to this valuable asset. This, however, is a topic for a future letter.

For now, let's just leave the settlement stand as is and move on.

Sincerely,

Aldo Mancini  
CEO  
Mancini Enterprises, Inc.

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